

Docket No. F-9183

Ser. No. 10/588,355

REMARKS

Claims 4-7 and 9-14 are pending; and of these, claim 14 is cancelled by this Paper, thereby leaving claims 4-7 and 9-13 to be examined. Reconsideration of the instant application in view of this Paper is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings, the specification and claim 14 with respect to various aspects thereof, and which arise specifically from various recitations included in claims 4 and 14.

Regarding those portions of the above objections asserted to be caused by recitations included in claim 14, Applicant has cancelled claim 14, thereby mooting such objections or portions thereof. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that such objections be withdrawn.

Regarding those portions of the above objections asserted to be caused by recitations included in claim 4, Applicant takes this opportunity to note that the various junctures, extensions and contours are shown in the drawings; and with respect, specifically, to the recited extensions, that such portions comprise constituent portions of the recited wheel. With respect to the recited "solid rim part," Applicant has amended claim 4 to recite that such part is an imaginary part, and thus represents a comparative member with which distinction may be made from the claimed tubular rim part. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that such objections be withdrawn.

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The Examiner has rejected claims 4-7 and 9-14 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description and enablement requirements.

For at least the reasons already mentioned, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of such rejections.

The Examiner has rejected claims 4-7 and 9-14 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baumgartner (U.S. Pat. No. 6,783,190). In view of Applicant's claim 4, as amended, and with respect to its dependent claims, such rejection is respectfully traversed.

As can be seen from the above listing of claims, Applicant's has clarified Applicant's invention as recited in claim 4 to point out the various aspects of the claimed rim construction, and particularly aspects of the claimed thickness of its constituent portions. In this way, and with such a construction, the thickness of the constituent wall portions is uneven in order to improve upon the geometrical moments of inertia so as to obtain increased values thereof in the radial and axial directions, while still enabling optimized casting of the wheel. Applicant has further clarified the invention as set forth in claim 12. Each of the clarifications set forth herein are supported by at least Figure 10 of Applicant's disclosure and the discussion provided at pages 18-19 of Applicant's specification.

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In contrast, Baumgartner fails to teach or suggest Applicant's construction. Rather, Baumgartner teaches a tubular rim, as shown in Figure 5 thereof, which is substantially triangular in shape and includes substantially thickened wall portions, when compared to Applicant's construction, which is formed in the shape of a parallelogram, see Figure 10 of Applicant's disclosure. Accordingly, Baumgartner fails to provide a sufficient teaching or suggestion of a construction which yields the strength and the first and second geometrical moments of inertia of the light alloy construction claimed by Applicant.

Applicant respectfully requests a one month extension of time for responding to the Office Action. **The fee of \$130 for the extension is provided for in the charge authorization presented in the PTO Form 2038, Credit Card Payment form, provided herewith.**

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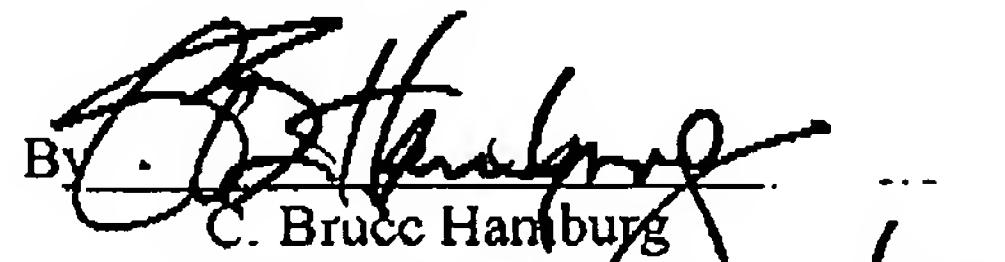
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In light of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be in proper form for allowance of all claims and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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